grinds to a halt because developers are worried there is not enough time to get them into service.

H.R. 2142, THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY LABORATORY MISSIONS ACT

HON. STEVEN SCHIFF

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 31, 1995

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, today I am joining my colleague Mr. GEREN in introducing legislation which will begin to establish the missions for the Department of Energy's national laboratories in the post-cold war Federal scientific establishment. Specifically, my legislation will establish a procedure for defining and assigning missions to the Department's laboratories which take into account the historic role the laboratories have played, and continue to play, in the defense of this Nation and in its scientific and technological success.

I am introducing this legislation in response to recent studies of the national laboratories, which clearly show the need for better defined roles and management. Through their unique historical missions, DOE's national laboratories have developed core competencies and scientific capabilities that have contributed and continue to contribute technology to ensure the maintenance of the nuclear deterrent and other elements of our national security. These laboratories collectively represent an extensive science and technology resource of people, facilities, and equipment. The national laboratories have established successful collaborative relationships with other Federal agencies, universities, and private industry that have allowed each partner to share and leverage their capabilities. Their contributions to energy-related and basic science, environmental restoration and waste management, and other emerging scientific fields are internationally significant.

Over the years, however, the missions of the national laboratories have become diffuse. Congress is now in the process of rethinking the infrastructure which supports research by the Federal scientific establishment. I believe it is, therefore, vital that the laboratories' preeminence as research facilities and their contributions to the Nation's overall national security, scientific and industrial well-being be recognized, defined, and focused. Whatever the final form of our Federal research support infrastructure, the national laboratories will have a prominent role within it.

My legislation first defines a three step public process by which the Secretary of Energy, working with all stakeholders, including Congress, first defines the criteria, then the missions, and then streamlines, if necessary, the labs to carry out those missions. H.R. 2142, the Department of Energy Laboratory Missions Act, also directs the DOE to cease internal health, safety, and environmental regulation of the labs and to transfer those responsibilities to other appropriate Federal regulatory agencies. Recent reports to the Secretary of Energy indicate this will substantially improve management of the labs and release scarce resources to accomplish the labs' missions.

As chairman of the Subcommittee on Basic Research of the Committee on Science, I intend to hold hearings on this legislation, and other related pending legislation this September. I am open to improving the mission-definition process and management at the Department and look forward to hearing from all interested parties at that time.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I like forward to working with you and the Members of this House on this legislation.

A section-by-section summary of the legislation is attached.

SECTION-BY-SECTION SUMMARY, H.R. 2142

The Department of Energy Laboratory Missions Act

Section 1. Short Title.

''Department of Energy Laboratory Missions Act''

Section 2. Definitions.

1. Departmental Laboratory;
2. Federal Laboratory;
3. Relevant Congressional Committees;
4. Secretary.

Title I. Mission Assignment

Section 101. Findings.

1. Labs have developed core missions;
2. Labs continue to contribute to national security;
3. Labs have helped maintain the peace;
4. Labs represent extensive science and technology resources that contribute to national technology goals;
5. Labs have established successful collaborative relationships;
6. Partnerships and cooperative agreements should be encouraged;
7. Labs need well defined and assigned missions.

Section 102. Missions.

The DOE may maintain labs to advance the following core missions:

1. To maintain the national security.

A. By providing to nuclear weapons stockpile.

B. By assisting with dismantlement of nuclear weapons and working to curb proliferation.

C. Advancing science and technology in the development of nuclear and conventional weapons.

2. To ensure the Nation's energy supply.
3. To conduct basic research in energy-related science and technology and in emerging scientific fields.
4. To carry out research and development for the purpose of minimizing environmental impacts of the production and use of energy, nuclear weapons, and materials.
5. To carry out additional missions as assigned by the President.

To further its core missions the DOE may establish mutually beneficial collaborative partnerships.

Section 103. Procedure for Laboratory Mission Assignment and Streamlining.

a. Mission Assignment and Streamlining Criteria.

1. The Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register, not later than 3 months after enactment, the criteria for the assignment of missions to, and streamlining if necessary of departmental laboratories. The public shall have 30 days to respond. In developing the criteria, the Secretary shall consider the following:

A. the unique technical and experimental capabilities of each lab;

B. unnecessary duplication of effort at the labs;

C. cost savings or increases due to streamlining;

D. appropriateness of research done at the labs;

E. expert advice from outside individuals.

2. Five months after enactment, Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register and transmit to Congress the final criteria.

b. Secretary's Proposals.

1. Not later than 1 year after enactment the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register and transmit to Congress the Secretary's proposals for mission assignments and streamlining.

2. Summary of Process.

The Secretary shall include a summary and justification of the process used.

c. Availability of Information.

The Secretary shall make all information available to the Comptroller General.

d. Comptroller General Report.

Fifteen months after enactment the Comptroller General shall report to Congress on the Secretary's proposals.

Section 104. Assignment of Missions and Streamlining of Labs.

The Secretary shall:

1. assign the missions as proposed in the report;
2. streamline the labs as proposed;
3. complete process in 4 years after date report is transmitted.

Section 105. Reports.

Each fiscal year the Secretary shall transmit to Congress:

1. a schedule of mission assignments;
2. any transfer of functions between labs.

Title II. Governance

Section 201. Findings.

1. inordinate internal focus at DOE on compliance issues;
2. too much emphasis at DOE on oversight and compliance roles;
3. costs of review groups interferes with research operations;
4. too much influence has been ceded by DOE to nonregulatory advisory boards;
5. enforcement of environment, safety, and health rules and regulations is a function of other government agencies.

Section 202. Elimination of Self-Regulation.

The Department shall implement, but shall not be the agency of enforcement of, Federal, State, and local environment, health, and safety rules and regulations, unless the Secretary certifies a particular action is unique to DOE and is necessary to maintain human health and safety.

Section 203. Effective Date.

Title II shall take effect October 1, 1996.

RECOGNITION OF PROFESSOR SUNG-HOU KIM AND PROFESSOR CARL HUFFAKER

HON. BILL BAKER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 31, 1995

Mr. BAKER. Mr. Speaker, recently two outstanding citizens of my district of San Francisco's East Bay region have been recognized for their outstanding achievements in the field of science.

Professor Sung-Hou Kim of the University of California at Berkeley is one of the newest inductees of the prestigious National Academy of Science. A resident of Moraga, CA, Professor Kim is the first American of Korean ancestry to obtain membership in this exclusive organization, whose 1,700 members represent the finest in American science.

As Director of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory's Biodynamics and Structural Biology Division, Professor Kim addresses questions relating to molecular communication and structure. His expertise in x-ray beams and molecular research is enabling him to make an important contribution in the development of cancer-fighting drugs, chemicals to